

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of managing event schedules, the method comprising the computer implemented steps of:

initializing a calendar system;

generating an invitation list;

sending an invitation to a first scheduled event having a scheduled event time to a plurality of users in the invitation list;

receiving a plurality of acceptance messages associated with [[a]]the first scheduled event having [[a]]the scheduled event time, each of the plurality of acceptance messages associated with a respective user of the plurality of users;

identifying a schedule conflict of a user associated with an acceptance message of the plurality of acceptance messages[[;]] [[and]], wherein identifying the schedule conflict comprises:

accessing a schedule store of a data processing system that generated the acceptance message;

responsive to identifying the schedule conflict, calculating a probable attendance from the plurality of acceptance messages[[.]];

displaying each of the users and the respective probability value in a user interface;

forming a meeting status value from the calculated probable attendance from the plurality of acceptance messages ; and

conveying the meeting status value to at least one user associated with one of the plurality of acceptance messages.

2-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for managing event schedules, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for initializing a calendar system;

second instructions for generating an invitation list;

third instructions for sending an invitation to a first scheduled event having a scheduled event time in the invitation list;

[[first]]fourth instructions for receiving a plurality of invitation acceptance messages of [[a]]the scheduled event from a plurality of clientsusers;

~~second fifth~~ instructions for interrogating [[a]]~~the~~ respective calendar system of each of the plurality of clients[[;]] [[and]]~~users, wherein interrogating the respective calendar system of each of the plurality of users includes the event schedule that conflicts with the scheduled event;~~

~~[[third]]sixth~~ instructions that calculate calculates a respective probability value of attendance for each of the plurality of clients~~users~~, wherein at least one probability value is weighted for an identified schedule conflict of a client~~user~~ of the plurality of clients[[.]]~~users~~;

~~seventh instructions for displaying each of the users and the respective probability value in a user interface;~~

~~eighth instructions for forming a meeting status value from the probable attendance from the plurality of acceptance messages; and~~

~~ninth instructions for conveying the meeting status value to the at least one user associated with one of the plurality of acceptance messages.~~

8-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A data processing system for managing an electronic calendar system, comprising:

~~a memory that contains [[a]]~~the~~ electronic calendar system as a set of instructions;~~

~~a processing unit that generates an invitation list;~~

~~the processing unit that sends the invitation to a first scheduled event having a scheduled event time in the invitation list;~~

~~the processing unit that generates a list of users each associated with one of a plurality of acceptance messages;~~

~~a network adapter that receives [[a]]~~the~~ plurality of acceptance messages; [[and]]~~

~~[[a]]~~the~~ processing unit, responsive to execution of the set of instructions, that calculates a respective probability value associated with each of the plurality of acceptance messages and weights a probability value of an associated acceptance message responsive to identification of at least one scheduling conflict[[.]];~~

~~a display device that displays a graphical output of the list of users on the display device;~~

~~the display device that displays a meeting status value, wherein the meeting status value is visually represented as a color of a plurality of colors each corresponding to a range of the possible meeting status values; and~~

~~the processing unit that conveys the meeting status value to the at least one user associated with one of the plurality of acceptance messages.~~

16-24. (Canceled)